SEUKEL

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5 February 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Senator J. W. Fulbright Re Ramparts! Article

- 1. At the Vice President's suggestion and the Director's request, I met with Senator Fulbright in his office at 1:45 p. m. on Saturday, 4 Pebruary. I stated that the Vice President was particularly anxious that I brief him on our involvement in the student field in view of the fact that Ramparts magazine is planning an article for its March issue which will reveal this relationship. I described in detail the past history and present situation, atressing the fact that we had never attempted to manipulate the policy of the U.S. National Student Association (USNSA) and had confined our assistance to their efforts to cope with the Communist challenge internationally. The Senator was a courteous and attentive listener and asked intelligent questions.
- 2. The Senator took the position that the leadership of the NSA in the face of a Ramparts' exposure should make a positive statement of the purposes and objectives of the organization, emphasizing the democratic procedures through which they determine policy and the independence of that policy from Covernment control. He also felt that they should be careful not to deny facts which could later be proved to be true. He certainly hoped that he himself would not be asked about the matter but if he was, he would say that he regretted the necessity for this type of activity. "
- 3. The Senator was obviously pleased with having been given advance information on this problem, and he also went out of his way to say that he thought the Director was doing a very good and thoughtful job in his briefing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

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